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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,035	10/30/2003	Yasunori Onishi	9319S-000570	1179
27572	7590	12/16/2005	EXAMINER	
HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.			SEMBER, THOMAS M	
P.O. BOX 828			ART UNIT	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303			PAPER NUMBER	
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 12/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/698,035	Applicant(s) ONISHI ET AL.	
	Examiner Thomas M. Sember	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12, 13, 15 and 16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-11 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/19/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Applicant has submitted a certified English translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-316081, which Applicant relies upon for priority. This Japanese patent application was filed on October 30, 2002. Thus, Applicant's claim of priority to the October 30, 2002 priority date is now perfected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9-11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by JP2002-287144 (same as US patent No. 6,925,313). JP2002-287144 discloses a display device comprising: a first display unit 28 having a display surface on a front surface thereof, a second display unit 27 having a display surface on a rear surface thereof, and a common illumination unit 23 interposed between the first display unit and the second display unit illuminating both the first display unit 28 and the second display unit 27 with light. The illumination unit 23 includes a light-guiding member including a first light-emitting surface opposite the first display unit and a second light-emitting surface opposite the second display unit, and wherein a translector (as broadly claimed

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film 232A is a transflector, a translucent material diffuses light, diffusion breaks up and distributes incident light by reflection, thus some light is reflected and some light is transmissive through the layer 232A) is interposed between the second light-emitting surface of the light-guiding member and the second display unit 28.

Regarding claim 2, the display area of the first display unit 27 two-dimensionally overlaps the display area of the second display unit 28 and an area outside the display area of the second display unit (see figure 5).

Regarding claim 4, the transflector 232A further comprises a light-diffusing transflector.

Regarding claim 5, the transflector 232A comprises a thin film further including a reflective material and has a light transmitting thickness.

Regarding claim 9, a light diffuser is interposed between the first light-emitting surface of the light-guiding member and the first

Regarding claim 10, the display device includes a controller.

Regarding claim 11, even though the transmissivity of film 232A is slightly higher than 232B, as broadly claimed they are still "substantially the same." (see column 3, lines 25-27).

Regarding claim 14, a light diffuser is 232A is disposed between the first display unit and the first light emitting surface of the illumination unit and a sheet 232A is disposed between the second display 28 second light emitting surface of the illumination unit.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9-11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kweon et al (U.S. patent 6,925,313). Kweon et al discloses a display device comprising: a first display unit 28 having a display surface on a front surface thereof, a second display unit 27 having a display surface on a rear surface thereof, and a common illumination unit 23 interposed between the first display unit and the second display unit illuminating both the first display unit 28 and the second display unit 27 with light, The illumination unit 23 includes a light-guiding member including a first light-emitting surface opposite the first display unit and a second light-emitting surface opposite the second display unit, and wherein a transflector (as broadly claimed film 232A is a transflector, a translucent material diffuses light, diffusion breaks up and distributes incident light by reflection, thus some light is reflected and some light is transmissive through the layer 232A) is interposed between the second light-emitting surface of the light-guiding member and the second display unit 28.

Regarding claim 2, the display area of the first display unit 27 two-dimensionally overlaps the display area of the second display unit 28 and an area outside the display area of the second display unit (see figure 5).

Regarding claim 4, the transflector 232A further comprises a light-diffusing transflector.

Regarding claim 5, the transflector 232A comprises a thin film further including a reflective material and has a light transmitting thickness.

Regarding claim 9, a light diffuser is interposed between the first light-emitting surface of the light-guiding member and the first

Regarding claim 10, the display device includes a controller.

Regarding claim 11, even though the transmissivity of film 232A is slightly higher than 232B, as broadly claimed they are still "substantially the same." (see column 3, lines 25-27).

Regarding claim 14, a light diffuser is 232A is disposed between the first display unit and the first light emitting surface of the illumination unit and a sheet 232A is disposed between the second display 28 second light emitting surface of the illumination unit.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which

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said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (Kweon et al or JP2002-287144) in view of Sone. (Kweon et al or JP2002-287144) discloses the claimed invention except for the teaching that the transflector has a plurality of fine light transmitting apertures dispersed therein. Sone teaches a transflector made with a plurality of fine light transmitting apertures dispersed therein. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transflectors of (Kweon et al or JP2002-287144) to include a plurality of fine light transmitting apertures dispersed therein as taught by Sone in order to efficiently reflect and transmit light.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 12-13 and 15-16 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M. Sember whose telephone number

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is 571-272-2381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 A.M- 5.30 p.m. first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas M Sember
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2875
